Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 18691 101437Z ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 AF-10 ISO-00 AGRE-00 SSM-05 INR-07 IO-14 MED-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 HA-05 CA-01 OES-07 USIA-15 PRS-01 CIAE-00 AID-05 DODE-00 /092 W -------045818 110609Z /10

R 101140Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1486
INFO AMCON ALEXANDRIA
US MISSION SINAI 595
NAVMEDRSCHDEVCOM, BETHESDA MD.

UNCLAS CAIRO 18691

PASS AID/ODFA, HEW/CDC, USDA

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: TBIO, EG

SUBJ: EPIDEMIC DISEASE, PRESUMABLY RIFT VALLEY FEVER

REF: CAIRO 18214

- 1. MIN. HEALTH TOLD SCIATT NOV.8, THAT "OUTBREAK" (WHICH HE DID NOT SPECIFICALLY NAME) WAS FALLING OFF IN SHARKIA PROVINCE WITH CASES DOWN FROM "100/WK TO 2 OR 3/EK". OCCNRRENCES CONTINUING AT APPARENTLY HIGHER RATE IN GIZA. BADRAN SAID THAT INSECT SPRAYING FROM AIRCRAFT HAS BEEN STEPPED UP.
- 2. HE IS MTG. WITH MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE SOON TO DISCUSS EFFECTS ON ANIMALS. THERE REPORTEDLY MAY HAVE BEEN AN INCREASE IN SPONTANEOUS ABOTRIONS IN LIVESTOCK, BUT NO CERTAIN RISE IN MORTALITY OF ADULT ANIMALS. BADRAN SAYS THAT THERE ARE CONFLICTING STORIES. GOE HAS REQUESTED NO FURTHER ASSISTANCE.
- 3. NAMRU-E HAS TEAMS IN FIELD IN SHARKIA, THEIRINFORMATION IS THAT CASES AT STATIONS CHECKED ARE NOW RUNNING ABOUT UNCLASSIFIED

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10-15/DAY VS FORMER RATES AS HIGH AS 200/DAY. ANECDOTAL ESTIMATES OF TOTAL CASES VARY FROM "2000 TO 700,000". ACTUAL FIGURE ALMOST CERTAINLY IN EXCESS OF 10,000, BUT PROBABLY DOESN'T APPROACH HIGH ESTIMATE. NAMRU OPINION IS THAT DISEASE, WHICH THEY IDENTIFY WITH "98 PERCENT" SURETY AS RIFT VALLEY FEVER IS DIMINISHING IN SHARKIA, BUT DIFFUSING OUTWARD.

4. MIN. BADRAN IS ALSO REPORTEDLY CONSIDERING LIMITING AND STRICTLY CONTROLLING MOVEMENT OF SHEEP AND CATTLE THROUGH CAIRO AREA DURING FOUR DAY AID AL-ADHA HOLIDAY WK OF NOVMWQN BECAUSE OF POSSIBILITY OF INCREASED TRANSMISSION OF VIRUS FROM AFFECTED ANIMALS TO MOSQUITOS AND TO MAN. IF THIS STEP IS TAKEN IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO AVOID PUBLICITY AND QUESTIONS ABOUT DISEASE. FYI PRESS HAS CARRIED ALMOST NOTHING IN RECENT DAYS DESPITE CONTINUANCE OF OUTBREAK. END FYI. ALSO IF RESTRICTIONS RESULT IN LESSENED AVAILABILITY OF MEAT DURING THIS MAJOR ISLAMIC FEAST, BADRAN COULD LOSE IN POPULARITY.

5. ACCORDING TO MINISTER, CHOLERA REPORT REMAINS NEGATIVE. EILTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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